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## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

~~INTELLIGENCE REPORT~~

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SUPPLEMENT

Württemberg-Hohenzollern

Before Württemberg was divided between the French and the Americans, the French established a State Secretariat in Tübingen, originally as a branch of the main administration in Stuttgart. Relations between the new branch and the headquarters office became increasingly slack, however, and the Tübingen Secretariat developed into first an independent administration and then, after the parliamentary elections in the summer of 1947, into the Land government of French-occupied Württemberg-Hohenzollern, with about 1.1 million inhabitants.

Although the difficulties caused by the forced separation from Stuttgart were great, the Württemberg-Hohenzollern government quickly succeeded in establishing a well-organized administration and in winning the respect of the French occupation authorities. The principal cause of this success is the quality of the higher-level administrative personnel, most of whom came from Stuttgart and were well qualified for their work. Many experienced administrative officials whom American severity towards their political background forced out of the Stuttgart government, went to Tübingen, where the French controlling authorities showed a more lenient attitude.

The most outstanding example of such cases is Karl Schmid, Minister of Justice and Land leader of SPD. American authorities considered him compromised by acting as Kriegsverwaltungsrat in Lille during the German occupation, but he was appointed head of the Württemberg Ministry of Education when the French occupied Stuttgart. Schmid moved to Tübingen with the French to head the State Secretariat there and promptly established good relations with the French authorities and the Land governor, Widmer. A jurist who specialized in state law and a former Landgerichtsrat, Schmid from the beginning insisted on arranging Württemberg-

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Hohenzollern state affairs on a solid legal basis.

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**Comment:** Schmid is the strongest personality in the government and one of the most talented German officials in any zone. He has an excellent intellectual and educational background and has proved an outstanding administrator, in spite of his dislike for bureaucratic routine and his personal vanity. He is the strongest advocate for the reunification of the French and American-occupied sectors of Württemberg. Because of his exceptional abilities and his often provocative character, he is not very popular with his colleagues, even though they acknowledge his capability.)

4. Another jurist who played a prominent role in building up the administration of Württemberg-Hohenzollern is Renner, Minister of Interior, a Social Democrat. He is popular with the Land because of his honesty and straightforwardness and the exemplary conduct of his work. Although his relations with the French are very good, he is not considered a sycophant.
5. Binder, the former Finance Minister, was a highly qualified financial expert who was dismissed from his position because his originally good relations with the French deteriorated to the point where he had to leave.
6. Wildermuth, the Minister of Economy, a member of the Democratic Party, is almost as influential in the government as Schmid because of his administrative capabilities. As a general during the war, he signed the capitulation of Le Havre. He is on good terms with the French and enjoys their support, but he is not reproached with being a "yes-man."
7. In addition to these top-level functionaries, there are a number of lower-ranking administrators who contributed greatly to creating an efficient government. Since the inauguration of parliamentary democracy in May 1947, however, there has been some depreciation of the quality of government, not because of the new system but primarily because the CDU has taken advantage of its absolute majority to change a number of satisfactorily functioning administrative personnel for party followers who do not come up to the standards of their predecessors. State President Bock is accused of appointing to state positions a number of persons whose principal qualification is their loyalty to  
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**Comment:** A typical example is Dr. Niethammer, who was appointed president of the State Court in spite of much opposition. Bock is a hide-bound and inflexible Swabian who was formerly an unimportant lawyer. CDU is also accused of overemphasizing Catholic influence in the administration.)

8. Two CDU functionaries who have shown no outstanding features are Minister for Social Affairs Wirschingen, formerly an official of the Christian Trade Unions, and Minister of Agriculture Weiss.

#### Baden

9. The situation in Baden presents a very different picture, since from the beginning this Land was less opposed to separation from its northern sector (included in the American Zone). Indeed, it shows some separatist tendencies, concentrated in "away from Stuttgart" slogans and keeping Freiburg as the permanent capital of Baden. There are also aspirations towards a close relationship to France and such separatist organizations as the Alemannischer Bund.
10. No outstanding personality appeared in the early Land Baden government, for State President Wohleb, who was first appointed by the French and then reelected in the summer of 1947, is only a second-rate administrator. A teacher by profession, he has shown no particularly political initiative, and his cabinet and much of his staff are composed of similar personalities. He is a member of CDU. Many Badeners consider him too subservient to the French. In consequence, the Baden administration is less efficient than that of Württemberg-Hohenzollern, the government apparatus more inert and less resourceful. This is reflected in such elements as the food situation, which is fifty percent worse than in Württemberg-Hohenzollern.

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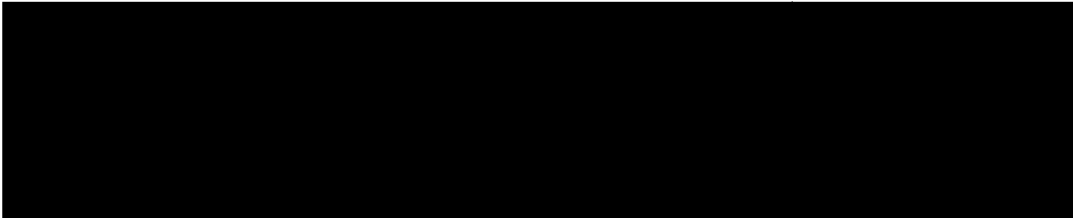
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Lacking an orderly legal foundation for government such as that of Württemberg-Hohenzollern, Baden has suffered from inequalities and pressure. A primary example is the denazification situation, which became a political instrument in the hands of KPD. The first denazification commissioner appointed by Governor Pène was State Councilor Eckert, who is also the Land Baden leader of KPD. Complaints from business groups and from CDU indicate that the denazification administration was penetrated by Communists and used as an anti-capitalist weapon. It is stated that the Communists have employed denazification for carrying out an unofficial land reform, dispossessing farmers without trial or hearing, although their Nazi implication was only that of fellow-traveler at most. As a result of these accusations, Administrator General Laffon decided on an investigation of denazification proceedings and the annulment of some sentences.

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Comment: Governor Pène of Baden is a hard-boiled Communist who has surrounded himself with a staff of officials in sympathy with the Communist movement. They have undoubtedly provided some support, although surreptitious and not directly provable, in pro-Communist activities such as the denazification management.)



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